

## **REMARKS**

The Office Action mailed on October 8, 2004 (the "Office Action") has been carefully reviewed. Reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-13, 15, 16, 18-20, 22-30 and 32-37 are pending in the application.

The Examiner rejected claims 11-13, 15, 16 and 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). In response, these claims have been cancelled. Although claims 11-13, 15, 16 and 18-20 have been cancelled, the right to pursue these claims in a separate application is preserved.

The Examiner next allowed claims 1, 3-10, 24-30 and 32-37. The allowance of these claims is appreciated.

Finally, the Examiner objected to claims 22 and 23 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner noted that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

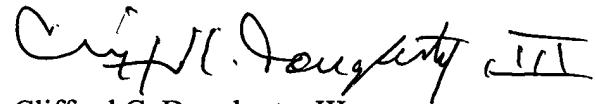
It is submitted that the Examiner's objection to dependent claims 22 and 23 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim is in error. In fact, dependent claim 22 depends from allowed claim 7, which depends from allowed claim 5 which depends from allowed independent claim 1. Dependent claim 23 depends from allowed claim 4 which depends from allowed independent claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that dependent claims 22 and 23 are already in allowable form. The Examiner's objection to these claims should be withdrawn.

## **CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, claims 1, 3-10, 22-30 and 32-37 are in condition for allowance. A notice of allowability directed to these claims is respectfully requested.

This is intended to be a complete response to the Office Action mailed on October 8, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,



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